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Marine Life Protection Act Initiative
c/o California Resources Agency
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1311
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Melissa Miller-Henson:

MARINe, the Multi-Agency Rocky Intertidal Network(www.MARINe.gov) is a partnership of Federal, State, local government agencies, universities and private organizations dedicated to the long-term study of rocky intertidal habitats along the coast. On behalf of MARINe, I would like to make the following nominations:

South Coast Stakeholder Group:

- Dr. Jack Engle, UC Santa Barbara and
- Dr. Ben Pister, National Park Service, Cabrillo National Monument.

We are nominating these individuals because each individual brings a different set of skills to the process which will be critical in understanding the complex issues in Southern California.

Sincerely,

Mary Elaine Helix
MARINe Manager

Nominee for Southern California Stakeholder:

Dr. Jack Engle

Associate Research Biologist

University of California Santa Barbara

Santa Barbara CA 93106

Dr. Engle has a long history as a naturalist in Southern California with countless hours of field time studying, researching and analyzing coastal biological habitats including deep benthic, benthic, subtidal and intertidal. He was recognized as the "Naturalist of the Year" by the Western Society of Naturalists in 2005. He has and continues to be actively involved in joint projects with a variety of scientific, agency, private and educational organizations, giving him a breadth of understanding about the interaction between scientific groups, public users/decision-makers, and academia.

Jack currently serves as Coordinator of MARINE, the Multi-agency Rocky Intertidal Network. MARINE has fifty partners from State, Federal and local government, universities and private organizations. MARINE is dedicated to the long-term study of rocky intertidal habitats and providing this information to the public. Currently, MARINE monitors 200 established rocky intertidal sites from Alaska to Mexico and places these data into a common database for joint publication. Jack provides essential functions including the interface between the database programmers and scientists, and coordination with other large projects such as the Mussel Watch Program, and Areas of Special Biological Significance Monitoring.

Jack, for several decades, has led subtidal diving surveys throughout Southern California including the California offshore islands for the Tatman Foundation. He actively coordinates with diving organizations, Federal and State organizations to document expanse and health of eelgrass beds, kelp forests and proliferation of invasive species.

Jack is an excellent person for the stakeholder's group as he maintains a wealth of contacts in a wide variety of marine science fields and because he has first hand knowledge of the current condition of the habitats offshore and along the mainland of southern California.

Nomination to Stakeholder's group

Dr. Benjamin Pister

Marine Ecologist

Cabrillo National Monument, National Park Service

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San Diego, CA 92016

Dr. Pister oversees biological resources for the Cabrillo National Monument, a national park containing an extensive tidepool area, visited by thousands of public monthly. As a member of the Stakeholder's group, Ben would represent the interests of the National Parks at Cabrillo National Monument, Santa Monica Mountains and Channel Islands, a key stakeholder due to

their role in hosting millions of public visitors each year. Ben actively participates and coordinates work for a variety of regional, multiagency programs including MARINe, the Integrated Natural Resource Management Plan for San Diego Bay, and Kelp Forest Monitoring program.

Through his work as a Scripps Oceanography diver, his education and current position with the National Park Service overseeing biological shoreline resources at Cabrillo National Monument, Ben is directly knowledgeable about the habitats in Southern California and would bring this knowledge to the group. He demonstrates the ability to balance local vs. regional interests daily in the administration of his duties within the Park Service, balancing local park needs within a regional and national context. Ben also has a large network of contacts from recreation fishing groups to academic institutions.

MARINe highly recommends Ben for the Stakeholders's group as he brings the energy, knowledge, Federal perspective and full commitment to the process.